



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: de Jong *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/815,981

Filed: March 22, 2001

Conf. No.: 7622

Cust. No.: 24961

For: **METHODS FOR DELIVERING NUCLEIC
ACID MOLECULES INTO CELLS AND
ASSESSMENT THEREOF**

Art Unit: 1636

Examiner: Sullivan, D.M.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

06/16/2003

Date

Debra Walker
Debra Walker

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed December 16, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows (a marked up copy of the amended paragraphs of the specification is attached to this Amendment):

Please replace the paragraph on page 1, lines 14-23, with the following:

A number of methods of delivering nucleic acid molecules, particularly plasmid DNA and other small fragments of nucleic acid, into cells have been developed. These methods are not ideal for delivery of larger nucleic acid molecules. Thus, there is a need for methods of delivering nucleic acid molecules of increasing size and complexity, such as artificial chromosomes, into cells. Methods are required for use with *in vitro* and *in vivo* procedures such as gene therapy and for production of transgenic animals and plants. Furthermore, there is a need for the ability to rapidly and simply determine and assess the efficiency of delivery of DNA into cells.

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